

REMARKS

In a Final Office Action dated October 16, 2006, Claims 4-9, 12, 16, 17 and 19-28 were rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,618,774 issued to Dickens et al. ("Dickens") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,937,176 issued to Beasley et al. ("Beasley") and Claims 11 and 18 were rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dickens in view of Beasley in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,557,170 issued to Wilder et al. ("Wilder"). Applicant has reviewed Examiner's remarks and rejections, but respectfully disagrees on the grounds presented below.

Claims 4-9, 12, 16, 17 and 19-28

Independent Claim 4 includes, among other elements, language pertaining to a switch. Specifically,

a switch unit for enabling communication between said user interface device and a plurality of remotely located computers, said switch unit coupled to said user interface device by a single first connection (underlined section in issue)

The language cited in Dickens by the Examiner discusses a straight connection between a computer-end interface circuit and an user-end interface circuit. There is no discussion or figure of a switch or how Dickens would implement its structure in a switch configuration. Dickens does not show the element of a switch as used in the embodiment of the invention. Withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 4 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 4 further includes an amplification circuit based on at least one synchronization signal transmitted with a component of the video signal. The language cited by the Examiner does not discuss the use of a synchronization signal for automatically amplifying the transmitted video signals. Dickens teaches compensation

as stated at Col. 20, lines 15-30, and at Col. 19, lines 64-66 and Col. 20, lines 1-14, neither of which discusses the use of synchronization signals. Dickens does not show the above element as used in the embodiment of the invention. Withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 4 is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 depends on independent Claim 4 and includes all of the elements of Claim 4. In particular, Claim 5 discusses a first and a second connection. As stated by the Examiner, Dickens does not have a second connection. Moreover, Dickens does not discuss a switch. Dickens does not show the above element as used in the embodiment of the invention. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 4 and Claim 5, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 5 is respectfully requested.

Claims 6-7 each depend on independent Claim 4 and dependent Claim 5 and include all of the elements of Claims 4 and 5. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claims 4 and 5, withdrawal of the rejections for Claims 6-7 is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 depends on independent Claim 4 and includes all of the elements of Claim 4. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 4, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 8 is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 depends on independent Claim 4 and dependent Claim 5 and include all of the elements of Claims 4 and 5. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claims 4 and 5, withdrawal of the rejection for Claims 9 is respectfully requested.

Claim 12 depends on Independent Claim 4 includes all of the elements of Claim 4. In addition, Claim 12 discusses analyzing the synchronization signal. Dickens makes no such statement and in fact discusses a method for compensation based on not using any transmitted signals. In fact, Dickens states that these other methods should not be used

and does not give any implementation details. As such, it is inoperable to teach such other methods. Dickens does not show the above element as used in the embodiment of the invention. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 4 and Claim 12, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 12 is respectfully requested.

Claim 16 depends on Independent Claim 4 and includes all of the elements of Claim 4. In addition, Claim 16 further identifies that the synchronization signal used in the amplification circuit is a horizontal or vertical synchronization signal. Dickens makes no such statement and in fact discusses a method for compensation based on not using synchronization signals. In fact, Dickens states that these other methods should not be used and does not give any implementation details. As such, it is inoperable to teach such other methods. Dickens does not show the above element as used in the embodiment of the invention. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 4 and Claim 16, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 16 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 17 includes, amongst other differing elements, at least the elements discussed above with respect to Claim 4. In addition, Claim 17 discusses encoded synchronization signals. Dickens does not use encoded synchronization signals for amplification. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 4 and Claim 17, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 17 is respectfully requested.

Claim 19 depends on independent Claim 17 and includes all of the elements of Claim 17. In particular, Claim 19 discusses a first and a second connection. As stated by the Examiner, Dickens does not have a second connection. Moreover, Dickens does not discuss a switch. Dickens does not show the above element as used in the embodiment of the invention. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 17 and Claim 19, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 19 is respectfully requested.

Claim 20 depends on independent Claim 17 and includes all of the elements of Claim 17. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 17, withdrawal of the rejections for Claim 17 is respectfully requested.

Claim 21 depends on Independent Claim 17 and includes all of the elements of Claim 17. In addition, Claim 21 further identifies that the encoded synchronization signal is encoded as a negative signal. Dickens makes no such statement and in fact discusses a method for compensation based on not using encoded synchronization signals. In fact, Dickens states that these other methods should not be used and does not give any implementation details. As such, it is inoperable to teach such other methods. Dickens does not show the above element as used in the embodiment of the invention. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 17 and Claim 21, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 21 is respectfully requested.

Claim 22 depends on Independent Claim 17 and includes all of the elements of Claim 17. In addition, Claim 22 further identifies that the synchronization signal used in the amplification circuit is a horizontal or vertical synchronization signal. Dickens makes no such statement and in fact discusses a method for compensation based on not using synchronization signals. In fact, Dickens states that these other methods should not be used and does not give any implementation details. As such, it is inoperable to teach such other methods. Dickens does not show the above element as used in the embodiment of the invention. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 17 and Claim 22 withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 22 is respectfully requested.

Claim 23 depends on Independent Claim 17 and includes all of the elements of Claim 17. In addition, Claim 23 further states that the encoded synchronization signal has a predetermined characteristic for purposes of automatic amplification

determination. Dickens makes no such statement and in fact discusses a method for compensation based on not using synchronization signals. In fact, Dickens states that these other methods should not be used and does not give any implementation details. As such, it is inoperable to teach such other methods. Dickens does not show the above element as used in the embodiment of the invention. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 17 and Claim 23 withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 22 is respectfully requested.

Claim 24 depends on Independent Claim 17 and Claim 23 and includes all of the elements of Claim 17 and Claim 23. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 17 and Claim 23 withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 24 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 25 includes, amongst other differing elements, at least the elements discussed above with respect to Claim 4 and Claim 17. In addition, it includes the step of amplifying based on synchronization signals which is not discussed in Dickens. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 4 and Claim 17, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 25 is respectfully requested.

Claim 26 depends on Independent Claim 25 and includes all of the elements of Claim 25. For the reasons discussed above with respect to independent Claim 17 and Claim 25 withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 26 is respectfully requested.

Claim 27 depends on Independent Claim 25 and includes all of the elements of Claim 25. In addition, Claim 25 discusses analyzing the synchronization signal. Dickens makes no such statement and in fact discusses a method for compensation based on not using any transmitted signals. In fact, Dickens states that these other methods should not be used and does not give any implementation details. As such, it is inoperable to teach such other methods. Dickens does not show the above element as

used in the embodiment of the invention. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 25 and Claim 27, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 27 is respectfully requested.

Claim 28 depends on Independent Claim 25 and includes all of the elements of Claim 25. In addition, Claim 25 further identifies that the synchronization signal used in the amplification circuit is a horizontal or vertical synchronization signal. Dickens makes no such statement and in fact discusses a method for compensation based on not using synchronization signals. In fact, Dickens states that these other methods should not be used and does not give any implementation details. As such, it is inoperable to teach such other methods. Dickens does not show the above element as used in the embodiment of the invention. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 25 and Claim 28 withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 28 is respectfully requested.

Claims 11 and 18

Claim 11 depends on independent Claim 4 and includes all of the elements of Claim 4. Wilder does not make obvious any of the elements not shown in Dickens or Beasley as discussed above with respect to Claim 4. In addition, the paragraphs cited by the Examiner do not discuss or mention that a remote computer can power a computer interface module. In fact, power for switch 28 shown in Figure 3 does not come from remote computers 18-24 nor power unit 58. The power for the computer interface modules shown in the embodiment of the invention come from the remote computers. Given the reasoning and architecture shown in Wilder, if a computer interface module existed in Wilder, which it does not, it would be directly powered by power unit 58 so that it can be controlled by OSD 27. Wilder does not suggest or teach that power from

the remote computers would power a computer interface module. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claims 4 and 11, respectively, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 11 is respectfully requested.

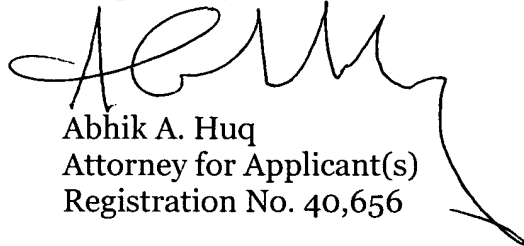
Claim 18 depends on independent Claim 17 and includes all of the elements of Claim 7. For the reasons discussed above with respect to Claims 4, 11, and 17, respectively, withdrawal of the rejection for Claim 17 is respectfully requested.

Correspondence and Fees

No fees are believed to be necessitated by the instant response. However, should this be in error, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account no. 03-3839 for any underpayment, or to credit any overpayments.

Please address all correspondence to the correspondent address for **Customer No. 26345 of Intellectual Docket Administrator, Gibbons, Del Deo, Dolan, Griffinger & Vecchione**, One Riverfront Plaza, Newark, NJ 07102-5497. Telephone calls should be made to Abhik A. Huq at (215) 446-6268 and fax communications should be sent directly to him at 215-446-6309.

Respectfully submitted,



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